

**CALFED Bay-Delta 2002 ERP Directed Actions -- Selection Panel Review
August 2003**

Proposal Number: 203DA

Applicant Organization: University of California, Davis

Proposal Title: Improved Fish Screen Design and Operation for Native Sacramento-San Joaquin Watershed Fishes

Recommendation: Not recommended for funding.

Provide a brief explanation of your rating:

In the two previous reviews of this proposal, the Selection Panel expressed a number of concerns with the proposal as well as the recognition that the proposed studies may help improve the design and function of Central Valley fish screens.

The Panel saw a need to further clarify the utility of the proposed studies. The Panel requested that the applicants provide additional documented coordination between the fish treadmill research team, the Anadromous Fish Screen Program Technical Team, and the Central Valley Fish Facility Review Team, and clearly establish that the studies, as proposed, clearly met the research needs for fish screening studies. That coordination should have addressed ranking critical needs for screening design and application/installation. Although the second revised proposal provided supportive email from team members or leaders, the proposal did not present a ranking of critical needs or establish that the proposed approach is the most viable one for protecting native fishes. The Panel recommends that the proposed approach be evaluated by the recently formed (February 2003) South Delta Fish Facilities Forum, for consideration of the utility of the proposed studies and how and when laboratory studies of fish behavior and screen design might contribute relative to the suite of other fish protection options under consideration by that forum. Although the budget was outlined in much greater detail in the revised proposal, the budget still appears high and inadequately justified.

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